

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 10-30 are pending in this application. Claims 1-7, 13, 15, 16, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, and 29 are currently withdrawn from consideration. By this Amendment, claims 8, 14, 17, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, and 30 are amended.¹ No new matter is added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Formal Matters

The Office Action objects to the Abstract because of the use of the term "comprises." The Abstract is amended to recite "includes" instead of "comprises" so as to obviate the objection. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

II. Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 8, 10, 14, 20 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yui (U.S. Patent No. 5,462,590) in view of Yano (U.S. Patent No. 6,048,309); rejects claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yui in view of Yano and further in view of Pavlin (U.S. Patent No. 5,777,023); rejects claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yui in view of Yano and further in view of Oki (U.S. Patent No. 2002/0050226); rejects claims 17, 18 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yui in view of Yano and further in view of Koitabashi (U.S. Patent No. 6,471,348); rejects claims 26 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yui in view of Yano and further in view of Kawamura (U.S. Patent No. 6,387,506); and rejects claim 30 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yui in view of Yano and further in view of Koitabashi and Kawamura. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

¹ Support for the amendment can be found at least in Example 2, Table 1, page 66 of the present specification.

Specifically, Applicant asserts that Yui, Yano, Pavlin, Oki, Koitabashi, and Kawamura, individually or in combination, fail to disclose an ink jet ink composition including at least one amine compound wherein a content of the amine compound is in a range of 10 to 30% by mass, as recited in independent claims 8, 14, 17, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, and 30.

In stark contrast, Yui, in col. 5, lines 13-15, discloses an amount of an amine compound added based on the whole amount of an ink is from 0.5 to 3% by weight, preferably 0.5 to 2% by weight. Accordingly, Yui fails to disclose a content of the amine compound in a range of 10 to 30% by mass, as recited in claims 8, 14, 17, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, and 30.

Yano, in col. 66, lines 52-63, discloses that a ratio of an amine compound added to the dye is from 0.1 to 8%, and that when the ratio of the added amine compound exceeds 8% by weight, the amine compound crystallizes and aggregates easily. Accordingly, Yano fails to disclose a content of the amine compound in a range of 10 to 30% by mass, as recited in claims 8, 14, 17, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, and 30. Furthermore, Yano teaches away from a ratio of the amine compound that exceeds 8%.

Pavlin, Oki, Koitabashi, and Kawamura also fail to disclose a content of the amine compound in a range of 10 to 30% by mass, as recited in claims 8, 14, 17, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, and 30, and thus, fail to make up for the deficiencies of Yui and Yano.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully asserts that Yui, Yano, Pavlin, Oki, Koitabashi, and Kawamura, individually or in combination, fail to disclose an ink jet ink composition including at least one amine compound wherein a content of the amine compound is in a range of 10 to 30% by mass, as recited in claims 8, 14, 17, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, and 30.

In accordance with the above remarks, Applicant submits that independent claims 8, 14, 17, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, and 30 define patentable subject matter. Claims 10-12 and 18

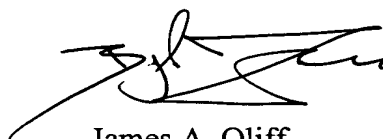
depend from independent claims 8 and 17, respectively, and therefore, also define patentable subject matter. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 8; 10-12, 14, 17-18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, and 30 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Bogdan A. Zinchenko
Registration No. 57,473

JAO:BAZ/hs

Attachment:
Substitute Abstract

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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